

Amendments to the Claims:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently amended): An endoscope comprising a flexible catheter probe having a plurality of lumens, a handle provided at the proximal end of the probe, an optical system provided removably in at least one optical system lumen of the catheter probe, at least one working lumen for a surgical instrument and a control element which is fixed to the distal end of the probe or in the proximity thereof for bending the end of the probe and is guided movably in the axial direction at the probe,

wherein:

the optical system which projects beyond the proximal end of the catheter probe is guided movably in a flexible tube; the tube which is elastically resilient in a longitudinal direction thereof to prestress the optical system toward the distal end of the probe and its proximal end is fixedly connected at a fixing location to the optical system projecting beyond the proximal end of the catheter probe and its distal end is releasably connected to the proximal end of the optical system lumen of the catheter probe;

the distal end of the optical system is pressed by the tube against a translucent cover which closes the distal end of the optical system lumen; a rotary bearing is provided on the handle;

at its proximal end the catheter probe is non-rotatably connected by a releasable fixing device to a manually actuatable rotary portion which is mounted rotatably to the handle in the rotary bearing through which the control element is displaceably guided;

~~a releasable fixing device for the catheter probe is provided on the rotary bearing;~~

the proximal end of the control element is releasably connected to a slider mounted to the handle; and

the catheter probe is a disposable component.

Claim 2 (Previously amended): An endoscope according to claim 1, wherein the fixing location is provided at the proximal end of the tube.

Claim 3 (Previously amended): An endoscope according to claim 1, wherein provided at the proximal end of the optical system is a connecting portion which is connectable to an illumination device and/or to an ocular.

Claim 4 (Previously amended): An endoscope according to claim 3, wherein the fixing location is provided at the connecting portion.

Claim 5 (Previously amended): An endoscope according to claim 1, wherein the flexible tube is arranged outside the handle.

Claims 6-7 (Canceled)

Claim 8 (Previously amended): An endoscope according to claim 1, wherein the rotary bearing has a manually actuatable rotary portion which is non-rotatably connected to the catheter probe.

Claim 9 (Previously amended): An endoscope according to claim 1, wherein the control element is passed through the fixing device.

Claim 10 (Previously amended): An endoscope according to claim 1, wherein the proximal end of the control element is passed through the fixing device.

Claim 11 (Previously amended): An endoscope according to claim 1, wherein the catheter has a balloon to which a dilation medium can be fed by way of a balloon lumen in the catheter probe.

Claim 12 (Currently amended): An endoscope according to claim [[1]] 11, wherein a guide wire can be guided through a guide wire lumen which extends from the distal end of the probe to an exit opening in the catheter, the exit opening being behind the balloon.

Claim 13 (Previously amended): An endoscope according to claim 9, wherein the control element is arranged in a flexible support tube which is arranged in a control lumen of the catheter probe and terminates at a given spacing from the distal end of the probe, wherein the given spacing corresponds approximately to the length of a distal portion of the probe, which is to be bent over by the control element.

Claim 14 (Previously amended): An endoscope according to claim 9, wherein the control element is fixed to the distal end of the catheter probe by a shrink tube or by an adhesive.

Claim 15 (Currently amended): An endoscope according to claim 14, wherein ~~the-a~~ support tube is fixed at a fixing location in the axial direction and the remaining portion of the support tube is supported movably with respect to the inside wall of the control lumen.

Claim 16 (Previously amended): An endoscope according to claim 14, wherein the fixing location is provided at the distal end of the support tube or in the proximity thereof.

Claim 17 (Previously amended): An endoscope according to claim 1, wherein the surgical implement is removable from the at least one working lumen or is incorporated or integrated into the catheter probe.

Claim 18 (Canceled)

Claim 19 (Previously amended): An endoscope according to claim 1, wherein the catheter probe is an injection molded component or an extruded component.